

**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:**

1. (Currently Amended) A method being performed by a computer system, the method comprising:

generating a user profile corresponding to a user;

identifying one or more entities related to the user, said one or more entities having corresponding entity profiles including context information comprising a plurality of types of categorized data;

associating at least a portion of the context information from the one or more related entity profiles to the user profile by importing at least the portion of the context information into the user profile, wherein the imported portion comprises data ~~selected from~~ belonging to the plurality of types of categorized data such that the imported portion includes at least two types of data belonging to at least two categories selected from a qualification of the user, a skill of the user, a personal preference of the user, an authorization level of the user, a group membership of the user, an informational need of the user, a project of the user, a task of the user, a taxonomy of the one or more entities, content accessed by the user, and context of the user's participation in the one or more entities; and

personalizing a work environment, by editing data stored in the computer system, associated with user based on the context information associated with the user profile.

2. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein said generating the user profile comprises explicitly associating context information relating to the user with the user profile.

3. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein at least a portion of said context information is organized into context clusters.
4. (Original) The method of claim 3, wherein said associating at least a portion of the context information from the one or more entity profiles to the user profile comprises transporting one or more context clusters into the user profile.
5. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein said personalizing comprises including links in the work environment.
6. (Original) The method of claim 5, wherein the links are to services.
7. (Original) The method of claim 5, wherein the links are to information places.
8. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the work environment comprises a portal environment.
9. (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising:  
updating the context information in the user profile periodically.
10. (Original) The method claim 9, wherein said updating comprises removing at least a portion of the context information based on relevance to the user.

11. (Original) The method of claim 10, further comprising:  
determining relevance of said at least a portion of the context information based on user activity.

12. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein said identifying one or more entities related to the user comprises identifying one or more entities having a collaborative relationship with the user.

13. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein said identifying one or more entities related to the user comprises identifying one or more entities having a business relationship with the user.

14. (Currently Amended) A method being performed by a computer system, the method comprising:

generating a child entity profile corresponding to a child entity;

identifying a parent entity profile from which the child entity profile depends, the parent entity profile including context information comprising a plurality of types of categorized data;

importing at least a portion of the context information from the parent entity profile into the child entity profile, said imported context information comprising inherited context information ~~selected from~~ belonging to the plurality of types of categorized data such that the inherited portion includes at least two types of data belonging to at least

two categories selected from a qualification of the child entity, a skill of the child entity, a personal preference of the child entity, an authorization level of the child entity, a group membership of the child entity, an informational need of the child entity, a project of the child entity, a task of the child entity, a taxonomy used in parent entity profile, and content accessed by the child entity; and

updating the inherited context information in the child entity profile by editing data stored in the computer system in response to a change in the corresponding at least a portion of the context information in the parent entity profile.

15. (Original) The method of claim 14, further comprising personalizing a work environment associated with user based on the context information associated with the user profile.

16. (Original) The method of claim 15, wherein said personalizing comprises including links in the work environment.

17. (Original) The method of claim 16, wherein the links are to services.

18. (Original) The method of claim 16, wherein the links are to information places.

19. (Original) The method of claim 15, wherein the work environment comprises a portal environment.

20. (Original) The method of claim 14, wherein said generating the child entity profile comprises explicitly associating context information relating to the child entity with the child entity profile.

21. (Original) The method of claim 14, wherein said inherited context information comprises context clusters.

22. (Original) The method of claim 14, further comprising:  
updating the context information in the user profile periodically.

23. (Original) The method claim 22, wherein said updating comprises removing at least a portion of the context information based on relevance to the user.

24. (Original) The method of claim 23, further comprising:  
determining relevance of said at least a portion of the context information based on user activity.

25. (Currently Amended) A machine-readable storage medium including machine-readable instructions which, when executed on a processor, cause the processor to:  
generate a user profile corresponding to a user;  
identify one or more entities related to the user, said one or more entities having corresponding entity profiles including context information comprising a plurality of types of categorized data;

associate at least a portion of the context information from the one or more related entity profiles to the user profile by importing at least the portion of the context information into the user profile, wherein the imported portion comprises data ~~selected from~~ belonging to the plurality of types of categorized data such that the inherited portion includes at least two types of data belonging to at least two categories selected from a qualification of the user, a skill of the user, a personal preference of the user, an authorization level of the user, a group membership of the user, an informational need of the user, a project of the user, a task of the user, a taxonomy of the one or more entities, content accessed by the user, and context of the user's participation in the one or more entities; and

personalize a work environment associated with user based on the context information associated with the user profile.

26. (Currently Amended) A machine-readable storage medium including machine-readable instructions which, when executed on a processor, cause the processor to:

generate a child entity profile corresponding to a child entity;

identify a parent entity profile from which the child entity profile depends, the parent entity profile including context information comprising a plurality of types of categorized data;

import at least a portion of the context information from the parent entity profile into the child entity profile, said imported context information comprising inherited context information ~~selected from~~ belonging to the plurality of types of categorized data such that the inherited portion includes at least two types of data belonging to at least

two categories selected from a qualification of the child entity, a skill of the child entity, a personal preference of the child entity, an authorization level of the child entity, a group membership of the child entity, an informational need of the child entity, a project of the child entity, a task of the child entity, a taxonomy used in parent entity profile, and content accessed by the child entity; and

update the inherited context information in the child entity profile in response to a change in the corresponding at least a portion of the context information in the parent entity profile.

27. (Cancelled)

28. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the user is related to the one or more entities based on one of activities of the user, worksets of the user, and collaboration of the user with the one or more entities.

29. (Cancelled)

30. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 14, wherein the child entity profile depends on the parent entity profile based on one of activities of the child entity, worksets of the child entity, and collaboration of the child entity with the parent entity profile.

31. (Cancelled)

32. (Previously Presented) The machine-readable storage medium of claim 25, wherein the user is related to the one or more entities based on one of activities of the user, worksets of the user, and collaboration of the user with the one or more entities.

33. (Cancelled)

34. (Previously Presented) The machine-readable storage medium of claim 26, wherein the child entity profile depends on the parent entity profile based on one of activities of the child entity, worksets of the child entity, and collaboration of the child entity with the parent entity profile.